

The Situation in Cuba
Heightened alert in Cuba for Cuban navy 25X1

25X1

Low level photography of ²⁶ October revealed that at least 27 IL-28 (Beagle) light bombers are stationed at the San Julian airfield, where 22 of them had previously been identified. *The four assembled (3 not completely) were dispersed in 8*
~~The 25 October information revealed that four~~

This afternoon shortly after 1400 Cuban news broadcasts carried reports of heavy antiaircraft fire directed ~~at~~ from Cuban installations against "aggressor aircraft."

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27 October 1950

25X1

Soviet Bloc Shipping to Cuba

No change except 2 new ships en route.

None of the six Soviet ships previously reported enroute Cuba have according to latest information. turned back. Two of the Satellite ships reported enroute are now in Cuban waters and the third, the Czech Kladno, appears to be still enroute. Liechansk which Furthermore another Soviet tanker/passed Istanbul declaring for Cuba on the 25th October, must be assumed still enroute until further information is received. This also holds true of the Soviet dry cargo frieghter Michurinsk which passed the Kiel Canal/declared for Cuba from Leningrad, on 26 October reportof which was received today.

15009.7

Summary as of 1520, 24 Oct.

BRITISH WORLD - Responsible Foreign Office officials now feel that Khrushchev has demonstrated in Cuba a willingness they had not previously suspected to take much greater military risks in advancing his political objectives. In their view, the Soviet missile buildup in Cuba was geared to Khrushchev's intention to provoke a Berlin showdown later this year. However, Khrushchev may not have anticipated the vigorous US response, and this probably accounts for the signs of indecision in Moscow since last Monday. A Foreign Office assessment that the Soviet decision to send missiles to Cuba reflected concern over the imbalance in the strategic situation and a desire to redress this quickly and relatively cheaply [redacted] [redacted]

25X1

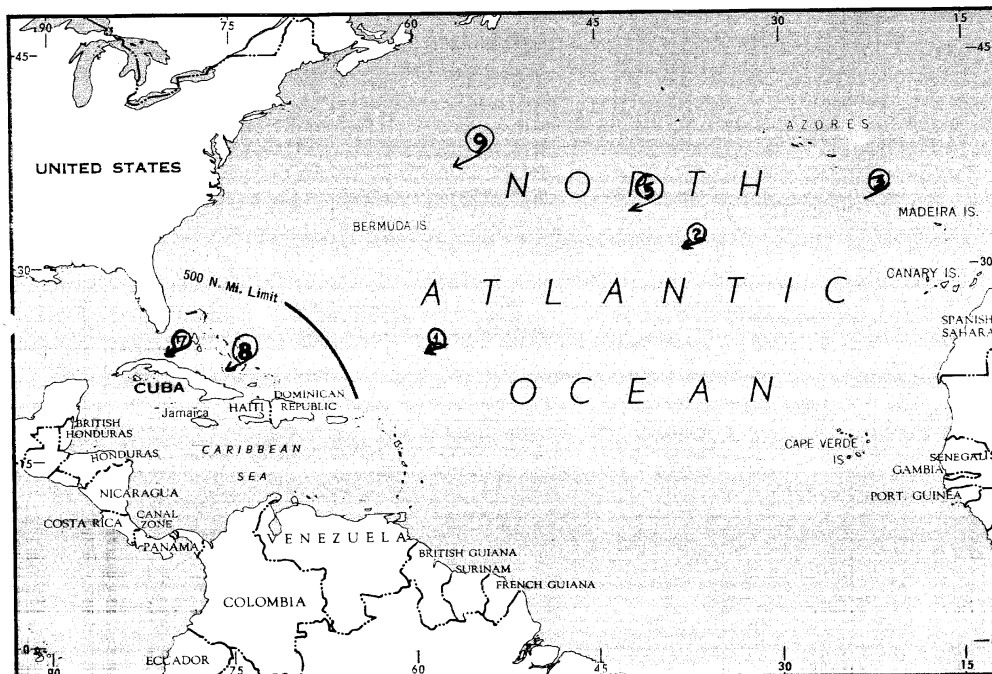
[redacted] Foreign Secretary Lord Home is reported by the press today to have told the Soviet chargé that Britain considers Moscow responsible for the present dangerous situation, and after the buildup in Cuba is halted, London wants the missile bases promptly dismantled. Khrushchev's offer to swap bases is reported to have been received with intense interest in diplomatic quarters in London, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ and the message is said to have been seen as bringing the Cuban crisis into the bargaining stage. (UNCL)

Tidbit

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1. GROZNY 24N, 58W 26 Oct 2000 - TANKER
 2. KARL MARK 32N, 40W 26 Oct 2100 - TANKER
 3. MIR 37N, 20W 26 Oct 1400 - T
 4. BALAKLAVA IN ENGLISH 26 Oct ----T " CHANNEL
 5. BELOVODSK 35N, 42W 26 Oct 0600 - DRY
 6. E. FUGACHE 20N, 110W 26 Oct 0800 D
 7. VOLKEREREINDSCHAFT 25N, 80W 26 Oct 2000 SAT PHAS
 8. BIALYSTOK 23N, 70W 26 OCTOBER SAT, DRY
 9. KLDNO 38N, 54W 26 OCTOBER SAT, DRY

TOP SECRET

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*Background Material
for 27 October*